

HOUSE BILL 159
By Turner M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 47 and Title 53, relative to the sale of prescription drugs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 47, Chapter 18, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 47-18-126.

(a) After July 1, 2005, no drug manufacturer, as such term is defined in subsection (d), wholesale distributor of drugs, or any subsidiary controlled by such manufacturer or distributor may enter into any agreement to sell any prescription drug in this state that provides for selling prescription drugs at a higher price than the seller offers for such drug in any other state.

(b) A violation of subsection (a) by the seller shall be an unfair and deceptive act under this chapter.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to contracts entered into prior to the effective date of this act.

(d) "Drug manufacturer" means any entity located within or outside Tennessee that is engaged in:

(1) The production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion, or processing of prescription drug products covered under the program, either directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of natural origin,

independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis; or

(2) The packaging, repackaging, leveling, labeling, or distribution of prescription drug products covered under the program. "Drug manufacturer," however, does not include a wholesale distributor of drugs or a retail pharmacy licensed under Tennessee law.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.